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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/550,348	04/14/2000	Anand Rangarajan	P3919	8679

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CENTRAL COAST PATENT AGENCY
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EXAMINER

CAMPBELL, JOSHUA D.

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2004

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/550,348

Applicant(s)

RANGARAJAN ET AL.

Examiner

Joshua D Campbell

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed on 12/09/2003
2. Claims 1-19 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 9, 15, and 19 are independent claims. Claim 19 is a new claim that has been added.
3. The rejection of claims 1-6, 15-16, and 18 based on 35 U.S.C. 102(e) has been withdrawn.
4. The rejection of claims 7-14, and 17 based on 35 U.S.C. 103(a) has been withdrawn.

Claim Objections

5. The objection placed on claims 16-18 has been withdrawn in light of corrections made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical

Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000.

Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

7. Claims 1-6, 15-16, and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed on March 31, 1998).

Regarding independent claim 1, Light discloses a method in which a form recognition unit detects properties about a form and a website containing a form (column 2, line 63-column 3, line 47 of Light). A matching unit then decides what data should be place in the form and at what locations, at which point the data and instructions on what to do with it (job order) is sent to the fill-in unit (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of Light). The fill-in unit then submits the data into the form and ultimately submits the form to the host (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of Light). Then, any new form information necessary for the site is added to the database containing a user's form data (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light).

Regarding dependent claims 2-4, Light discloses a method in which forms are found on web pages on the Web (Internet) (column 1, lines 7-40 of Light).

Regarding dependent claim 5, Light discloses a method in which forms are filled out with information such as credit card numbers to pay for a service (Figure 6 and column 3, lines 5-59 of Light).

Regarding dependent claim 6, Light discloses a method in which the form-filling process is completely controlled by a single networked system (server) (Figure 3 and column 2, line 53-column 3, line 47 of Light).

Regarding independent claim 15, the claim incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 1. Thus the claim is rejected along the same rationale as claim 1.

Regarding dependent claim 16, the claim incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claims 2-4. Thus, the claim is rejected along the same rationale as claims 2-4.

Regarding dependent claim 18, Light discloses a method in which the system stores new form information obtained from a site once the form filling process is complete (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light).

Regarding independent claim 19, Light discloses a method in which a form recognition unit detects properties about a form and a website containing a form (column 2, line 63-column 3, line 47 of Light). A matching unit then decides what data should be place in the form and at what locations, at which point the data and instructions on what to do with it (job order) is sent to the fill-in unit (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of Light). The fill-in unit then submits the data into the form and ultimately submits the form to the host (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of Light). Then, any new form information necessary for the site is added to the database containing a user's form data (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light). Light discloses a method

in which the system stores new form information obtained from a site once the form filling process is complete (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

9. Claim 7, 9-12, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed March 31, 1998) as applied to claims 1 and 3 above, and further in view of Jacobs et al. (US Patent Number 5,611,048, issued on March 11, 1997).

Regarding dependent claim 7, Light does not disclose a method of distributing software functions over a plurality of server nodes. However, Jacobs et al. discloses that functions to be performed on a server can be divided across multiple servers (column 4, lines 9-17 of Jacobs et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the method of Light with the method of Jacobs et al. because it would have optimized the efficiency of the method of Light

Regarding independent claim 9, Light discloses a method in which a form recognition unit detects properties about a form and a website containing a form (column 2, line 63-column 3, line 47 of Light). A matching unit then decides what data

should be place in the form and at what locations, at which point the data and instructions on what to do with it (job order) is sent to the fill-in unit (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of Light). The fill-in unit then submits the data into the form and ultimately submits the form to the host (column 3, line 48-column 4, line 30 of Light). Then, any new form information necessary for the site is added to the database containing a user's form data (column 4, lines 5-36 of Light). Light does not disclose a method of performing the functions using a server for each function.

However, Jacobs et al. discloses that functions to be performed on a server can be divided across multiple servers (column 4, lines 9-17 of Jacobs et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the method of Light with the method of Jacobs et al. because it would have optimized the efficiency of the method of Light

Regarding dependent claims 10-12, the claims incorporate similar subject matter as claims 2-4. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 2-4.

Regarding dependent claim 14, Light does not disclose a method of distributing software functions over a plurality of server nodes, which are connected to each other via a dedicated data network. However, Jacobs et al. discloses that functions to be performed on a server can be divided across multiple servers that are connected to each other via a local area network (column 4, lines 9-17 of Jacobs et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

Art Unit: 2178

have combined the method of Light with the method of Jacobs et al. because it would have optimized the efficiency of the method of Light

10. Claims 8, 13, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Light et al. (hereinafter Light, US Patent Number 6,192,380, filed March 31, 1998) as applied to claims 1, 3, 9, 10, and 15 above, and further in view of Kraft et al. (US Patent Number 6,084,585, with US filing date of December 5, 1997).

Regarding dependent claims 8, 13, and 17, Light does not disclose a method in which the job order is written in XML. However, Kraft et al. discloses that executable instructions which can be thought of as job orders can be written in any programming language including XML (column 3, lines 35-40 of Kraft et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the method of Light with the method of Kraft et al. because the use of different programming languages was interchangeable.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 filed on 12/09/2003 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection shown above.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent Number 6,330,321, filed by Detampel, Jr. et al.

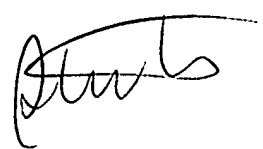
IEEE article, "Multimedia Information Interchange...", by Maret et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D Campbell whose telephone number is (703)305-5764. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (703)308-5186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JDC
February 11, 2004



STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER